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The Book of Want

DANIEL A. OLIVAS

A sensuous and open-hearted novel

When Moses descended Mount Sinai carrying the Ten Commandments, he never could have foreseen how one family in Los Angeles in the early twenty-first century would struggle to live by them.

Conchita, a voluptuous, headstrong single woman of a certain age, sees nothing wrong with enjoying the company of handsome—and usually much younger—men . . . that is, until she encounters a widower with unusual gifts and begins to think about what she really wants out of life.

Julieta, Conchita’s younger sister, walks a more traditional path, but she and her husband each harbor secrets that could change their marriage and their lives forever. Their twin sons, both in college, struggle to find fulfillment. Mateo refuses to let anyone stand in the way of his happiness, while Rolando grapples with his sexuality and the family’s expectations. And from time to time, Belén, the family’s late matriarch, pays a visit to advise, scold, or cajole her hapless descendants.

A delightful family tapestry woven with the threads of all those whose lives are touched by Conchita. The Book of Want is an enchanting blend of social and magical realism that tells a charming story about what it means to be fully human.

DANIEL A. OLIVAS is the author of five books, including Anywhere But L.A. and Devil Talk. He is also the editor of Latinos in Lotusland: An Anthology of Contemporary Southern California Literature, which collects sixty years of Los Angeles fiction from Latino/a writers. Olivas received a BA in English literature from Stanford University and a JD from the University of California at Los Angeles. Since 1990 he has practiced law with the California Department of Justice Public Rights Division.

“Daniel Olivas has been steadily developing into one of the primary voices of Latino literature’s new wave. The Book of Want is a major step forward in his art, a moving, vital narrative from a major American talent.” —Luis Alberto Urrea, author of The Hummingbird’s Daughter

“These haunting, lyrical tales, woven into a seamless novel by Daniel A. Olivas, rise from the heart of his beloved Los Angeles, in that mythical place called the Borderlands, and lead the way in a new genre of superb American literature.” —Himilce Novas, author of Mangos, Bananas and Coconuts: A Cuban Love Story

“Daniel Olivas is vitally engaged with the multiple voices and lives that make up a distinctively L.A.-centric Latinidad. A warm, funny, sensuous tale. ¡Muy readable!” —Susana G. Chávez-Silverman, author of Scenes from la Cuenca de Los Angeles y otros Natural Disasters

“To read this sensuous and open-hearted novel is to enter a kind of heaven.” —Michael Nava, author of The Little Death
“If wild mustangs could speak, surely the story told of their miraculous journey to defy extinction and come to inhabit the lands of the American West would be as close to Ed de Steiguer’s meticulously researched and masterfully written work than any I’ve read on the subject. With a narrative that reaches back 50 million years and gallops through the millennia to the present day—a time in which the plight of wild horses should command everyone’s attention—de Steiguer introduces us to a cast of memorable characters, both human and equine. The Texas-born Ed de Steiguer writes with an unabashed love for the land and its inhabitants, conjuring the spirit of times and places past and present, reminding us, as he puts it, that while history can teach us much about horses, it can teach us even more about ourselves.”

—Mim Eichler Rivas, author of Beautiful Jim Key: The Lost History of a Horse and a Man Who Changed the World
Wild Sea
Eco-Wars and Surf Stories from the Coast of the Californias
SERGE DEDINA

One man’s struggle to defend the Pacific coast

Many people have lamented the pollution and outright loss of beaches along the coasts of California and Mexico, but very few people have fought on behalf of beaches as hard—or as successfully—as Serge Dedina. Whether taking on an international conglomerate or tackling a state transportation agency, Dedina is truly an eco-warrior. In this sparkling collection of articles, many written for popular magazines, Dedina tells the stories as only an insider could. He writes with a firm grasp of facts along with an advocate’s passion and outrage. Sprinkled with just the right mix of humor and surf lingo, Dedina’s writing is “weapons grade”—surfer speak for totally awesome.

Dedina grew up in Imperial Beach, California, just north of the Mexican border, and he feels equally at home in Mexico and the States. An expert on gray whales, he eloquently describes the fight he helped to lead against the Mitsubishi Corporation, whose plan to build a salt-processing plant in the San Ignacio Lagoon in Baja California would have destroyed the world’s last undeveloped gray whale lagoon. With similar fervor, Dedina describes helping to construct the unlikely coalition that succeeded in defeating a proposed toll road that would have decimated a legendary California surf spot. In between, he writes about the first surfers in Baja, the Great Baja Land Rush of the 1990s, Tijuana’s punk music scene, the pop-culture wrestling phenomenon lucha libre, the reasons why ocean pollution must be stopped, and the way HBO took over his hometown. Anyone interested in what’s happening to our natural places or just yearning to read about someone really making a difference in the world will find this a book worth sinking their teeth into.

SERGE DEDINA is co-founder and executive director of WiLDCOAST/COASTALVÀJE, an international organization that conserves coastal and marine ecosystems and wildlife. He earned his PhD in geography from the University of Texas and has been surfing since 1977. He is the author of Saving the Gray Whale: People, Politics, and Conservation in Baja California, also published by the University of Arizona Press.

“In Wild Sea, Serge Dedina tells the true story of a wondrous world that’s become his life’s work. Dedina’s eloquent narrative leads us on a harrowing journey through the complex and evolving realities of a threatened and forgotten land.” —Drew Kampion, author of The Way of the Surfer: Living It 1935 to Tomorrow

“Dedina’s account of his ongoing battle to preserve the Baja Peninsula should inspire environmentalists everywhere. With a surfer’s passion and ingenuity, he takes on the corporate powers and, along the way, gives us a fascinating history of others who ride the waves.” —Dick Russell, author of Eye of the Whale
The American Café

SARA SUE HOKLOTUBBE

A Sadie Walela Mystery

When Sadie Walela decides to pursue her childhood dream of owning a restaurant, she has no idea that murder will be on the menu.

In this second book in the Sadie Walela series, set in the heart of the Cherokee Nation, Sadie discovers life as an entrepreneur is not as easy as she anticipated. On her first day, she is threatened by the town’s resident “crazy” woman and the former owner of The American Café turns up dead, engulfing the café—and Sadie herself—in a cloud of suspicion and unanswered questions.

Drawing on the intuition and perseverance of her Cherokee ancestry, Sadie is determined to get some answers when an old friend unexpectedly turns up to lend a hand. A diverse cast of characters, including a mysterious Creek Indian, a corrupt police chief, an angry Marine home from Iraq, and the victim’s grieving sister and alcoholic niece, all come together to create a multilayered story of denial and deceit.

While striving to untangle relationships and old family secrets, Sadie ends up unraveling far more than a murder.

SARA SUE HOKLOTUBBE, a member of the Cherokee Nation, was named Writer of the Year by the Wordcraft Circle of Native Writers and Storytellers for her first book, Deception on All Accounts, also published by the University of Arizona Press. She is a member of Mystery Writers of America and Sisters in Crime.

“The American Café has an intriguing murder on its menu because Sara Sue Hoklotubbe has mastered the craft of cooking up an intriguing mystery while bringing alive the multi-cultural complexities of contemporary Indian Country life in small-town Oklahoma.” —D. L. Birchfield, author of Field of Honor

“Five stars to The American Café, a riveting and lyrical novel. Sara Hoklotubbe draws on her Oklahoma and Cherokee heritage to create an absorbing tale with an appealing protagonist. Mystery lovers will be enchanted.” —Carolyn Hart, author of Letter from Home

“An intriguing, well-written, carefully paced mystery. Sara Sue Hoklotubbe does an excellent job of depicting the people of Liberty and the complexities of small-town life.” —Judith Van Gieson, author of the award-winning Neil Hamel Mysteries series

“The American Café has all of the twists and turns expected in a first-rate mystery, but those are only part of its charm. A gifted storyteller, Sara Hoklotubbe writes of family, the fragile ties that bind people together, and the links to the past that are always just below the surface of things. Compassionate and wonderful!” —Margaret Coel, author of The Spider’s Web
Many know that the removal and relocation of Indigenous peoples from traditional lands is a part of the United States’ colonial past, but few know that—in an expansive corner of northeastern Arizona—the saga continues. The 1974 Settlement Act officially divided a reservation established almost a century earlier between the Diné (Navajo) and the Hopi, and legally granted the contested land to the Hopi. To date, the U.S. government has relocated between 12,000 and 14,000 Diné from Hopi Partitioned Lands, and the Diné—both there and elsewhere—continue to live with the legacy of this relocation.

Bitter Water presents the narratives of four Diné women who have resisted removal but who have watched as their communities and lifeways have changed dramatically. The book, based on 25 hours of filmed personal testimony, features the women’s candid discussions of their efforts to carry on a traditional way of life in a contemporary world that includes relocation and partitioned lands; encroaching Western values and culture; and devastating mineral extraction and development in the Black Mesa region of Arizona. Though their accounts are framed by insightful writings by both Benally and Diné historian Jennifer Nez Denetdale, Benally lets the stories of the four women elders speak for themselves.

Scholars, media, and other outsiders have all told their versions of this story, but this is the first book that centers on the stories of women who have lived it—in their own words in Navajo as well as the English translation. The result is a living history of a contested cultural landscape and the unique worldview of women determined to maintain their traditions and lifeways, which are so intimately connected to the land. This book is more than a collection of stories, poetry, and prose. It is a chronicle of resistance as spoken from the hearts of those who have lived it.

Malcolm D. Benally studied Navajo and English at Northern Arizona University. He is currently the Community Involvement Coordinator for Kayenta Township in Kayenta, Arizona. He continues his work documenting the stories of Navajo elders and is an advocate for cultural literacy in his community.

“This book is important because it presents a Navajo ethos and reality that few non-Navajo people know about. It is this kind of dimensional work that will help readers gain a deeper insight into Navajo life.”—Donald L. Fixico, author of The Invasion of Indian Country in the Twentieth Century: American Capitalism and Tribal Natural Resources

“There is an urgent need for a resource like this that provides firsthand accounts of the cultural impact of removal and resistance.”—Jeffrey P. Shepherd, author of We Are an Indian Nation: A History of the Hualapai People
In A New American Family: A Love Story, Peter Likins offers a compelling personal story, an important social commentary, and a timely call to **embrace the diversity** of today’s American families. The message of Peter Likins’ book is one that will resonate with those of us who work with, study, and teach about families. The book could easily serve as a case study of family diversity in all its forms. However, I share Dr. Likins’ hope that his book will also speak to a much broader audience in advocating for greater acceptance of and appreciation for the rich variety in our shared American experience of family and society.” —Angela Taylor, associate professor of Family Studies and Human Development at the University of Arizona
F. Daniel Frost and the Rise of the Modern American Law Firm
TONI M. MASSARO

Transforming the American legal profession

This biography of F. Daniel Frost, whose life and work are most closely associated with the expansion of the Los Angeles law firm of Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher from the 1960s through the 1980s, is also a tale of the transformation of the American legal profession during that era. Macro histories offer one important window into this rich chapter of the profession's history, and personal narratives of the most ambitious and high-profile leaders offer still another. This book is written from Dan Frost's viewpoint as an exceptionally influential private lawyer who shaped a major California firm throughout the second half of the last century. During this dynamic time in the saga of the profession, the rise of California's law firms was a crucial component. Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher today is a global entity, with offices and influence in every major economic hub in the world, but when Frost joined the firm it still was a small, essentially regional institution. He was a witness to, and became a central architect of, the firm's dramatic evolution thereafter.

The foundations of Frost's success included his family, education, and public service background, as well as the historical, economic, and geographical context in which he lived. During this time, California's major industries, universities, cultural centers, and sheer geographic expanse and natural beauty established her as the nation's other coast—rivaling, and in some respects defeating, the venerable East Coast in influence, affluence, and dynamism.

Frost's career holds valuable lessons for legal historians, California historians, and lawyers of any era. His life also offers insights for his professional and personal descendants, as Frost respected and sought to preserve the firm's history and became a student of western history, spending many years capturing the history of his pioneer ancestors. This account is aimed at illuminating Dan Frost's role in the evolving firm and family history and will enable his professional and personal descendants to find themselves in the ongoing evolution of a pioneer law firm and a pioneer family. They may glimpse their own trajectory as they reflect on the life of this western lawyer, professional leader, entrepreneur, and philanthropist—a journey that continues today.

TONI M. MASSARO is Regents’ Professor, Milton O. Riepe Chair in Constitutional Law, and Dean Emerita at the James E. Rogers College of Law at the University of Arizona. She is the author of Constitutional Literacy: A Core Curriculum for a Multicultural Nation and co-author, with Barbara Allen Babcock and Norman Spaulding, of Civil Procedure: Cases and Problems. She also has written numerous articles on constitutional law and on law and emotions.
Doubters and Dreamers

Poems by JANICE GOULD

A courageous journey from innocence to revelation

Doubters and Dreamers opens with a question from a young girl faced with the spectacle of Indian effigies lynched and burned “in jest” before UC Berkeley’s annual Big Game against Stanford: “What’s a debacle, Mom?” This innocent but telling question marks the girl’s entrée into the complicated knowledge of her heritage as a mixed-blood Native American of Koyangk’auwi (Concow) Maidu descent. The girl is a young Janice Gould, and the poems and narrations that follow constitute a remarkable work of sustained and courageous self-revelation, retracing the precarious emotional terrain of an adolescence shaped by a mother’s tough love and a growing consciousness of an ancestral and familial past.

In the first half of the book, “Tribal History,” Gould ingeniously repurposes the sonnet form to preserve the stories of her mother and aunt, who grew up when “muleback was the customary mode / of transport” and the “spirit world was present”—stories of “old ways” and places claimed in memory but lost in time. Elsewhere, she remembers her mother’s “ferocious, upright anger” and her unexpected tenderness (“Like a miracle, I was still her child”), culminating in the profound expression of loss that is the poem “Our Mother’s Death.”

In the second half of the book, “It Was Raining,” Gould tells of the years of lonely self-making and “unfulfilled dreams” as she comes to terms with what she has been told are her “crazy longings” as a lesbian: “It’s been hammered into me / that I’ll be spurned / by a ‘real woman,’ / the only kind I like.” The writing here commemorates old loves and relationships in language that mingles hope and despair, doubt and devotion, veering at times into dreamlike moments of consciousness. One poem and vignette at a time, Doubters and Dreamers explores what it means to be a mixed-blood Native American who grew up urban, lesbian, and middle class in the West.

JANICE GOULD is an assistant professor of women’s and ethnic studies at the University of Colorado in Colorado Springs. She has published two previous collections of poetry, Earthquake Weather, also published by the University of Arizona Press, and Beneath My Heart. She is also co-editor of Speak to Me Words: Essays on Contemporary American Indian Poetry.

“Janice Gould is one of our best poets. The music of her poetry will delight you, and her gentle, courageous accounts of tribal, family, and personal history make this book unforgettable. Doubters and Dreamers is a masterpiece.” —Leslie Marmon Silko, author of Gardens in the Dunes

“These are the songs of a dreamer, the songs of longings that belong to all beings, from humans to stones and clouds. These poems remind us that as we travel this earth walk we will move through love like a dancer of mist, and like stones we will bear gravity. This collection of poems by Janice Gould is an illumination, her best.” —Joy Harjo, poet, musician, writer, and performer
Empire

Poems by XOCHIQUETZAL CANDLELARIA

Personal verses explore monumental themes

Using both lyrical and narrative forms, these concise verses explore a family history set against the larger backdrop of Mexican history, immigration, and landscapes of the Southwest. The poet’s delicate touch lends these poems an organic quality that allows her to address both the personal and the political with equal grace. Straightforward without being simplistic or reductive, these poems manage to be intimate without seeming self-important.

This distinctive collection ranges from the frighteningly whimsical image of Cortés dancing gleefully around a cannon to the haunting and poignant discovery of a dead refugee boy seemingly buried within the poet herself. The blending of styles works to blur the lines between subjects, creating a textured narrative full of both imagination and nuance.

Ultimately, Empire situates individual experience in the wider social context, highlighting the power of poetry as song, performance, testimony, and witness. Addressing themes such as war, family, poverty, gender, race, and migration, Candelaria gives us a dialogue between historical and personal narratives, as well as discreet “conversations” between content and form.

XOCHIQUETZAL CANDLELARIA has had her work published in The Nation, The New England Review, Gulf Coast, The Seneca Review, and other magazines and journals. She holds degrees from the University of California, Berkeley, and New York University and has received multiple fellowships, including those from the Bread Loaf Writers’ Conference and the National Endowment for the Arts. She teaches at San Francisco City College.

“I am amazed at the poetic reach and depth of Xochiquetzal’s work. A kind of magical power glows—a mind-burning new direction in Latina and Latino poetry.” —Juan Felipe Herrera, author of Half of the World in Light

“An alchemic work in the tradition of Lorna Dee Cervantes, Empire is an ambitious chronicle of migration and transformation. Candelaria is a luminous and necessary voice.” —Carmen Giménez Smith, author of Odalisque in Pieces

“Empire is a sensuous and lucid meditation on lineage, from the haunting and mythic narratives of her ancestry to her tautly drawn memories of growing up in California. It is a book of tender and deeply imagined songs. I cannot recommend it enough.” —Cathy Park Hong, author of Translating Mo’um

“Every line of Xochiquetzal Candelaria’s Empire burns. This is a poet who wields her verse as magician’s wand, goddess’s shield, saint’s brand, and refugee’s cudgel. To read Candelaria is to witness, in the flash of her language, the alchemical transformation of everything she sees.” —Julie Paegle, author of torch song tango choir

Of Related Interest

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Grand Canyon Reflections
Edited by TODD R. BERGER and CAROLYN DEUSCHLE

“The wonders of the Grand Canyon cannot be adequately represented in symbols or speech, nor by speech itself,” said John Wesley Powell. Though Powell’s observation may be true, Grand Canyon Reflections does capture the canyon in the words of some of its most eloquent visitors, from famous canyoneers like Edward Abbey to its lesser-known guests such as Charles Higgins. Interspersed with these quotes about the canyon are messages about the beauty of nature, the importance of preservation, and the essence of time from well-known scribes such as Emily Dickinson, Albert Einstein, and Ralph Waldo Emerson. Their words are evocative reminders of the power of the Grand Canyon. Each page is dedicated to one quote, as well as a spectacular image of the canyon and its environs. With a convenient size, Grand Canyon Reflections will make both a lovely gift and a fine keepsake.

TODD R. BERGER is the managing editor of the Grand Canyon Association and a freelance writer, editor, and photographer based at Grand Canyon National Park. CAROLYN DEUSCHLE worked at Aperture magazine and as an associate editor at Princeton Architectural Press before moving to Flagstaff to pursue her love of the outdoors and the Southwest.

Canyon Crossing
Experiencing Grand Canyon from Rim to Rim

SETH MULLER

There’s the Grand Canyon as seen from one of the rims. Spectacular. Awe-inspiring. Dramatic. And there’s the Grand Canyon below the rims, a very different place steeped in wilderness, bus-sized boulders, tumbling streams, knee-shredding switchbacks, solitude, and the cataract-punctuated Colorado River. The trails in Grand Canyon National Park attract more than 80,000 permitted overnight backpackers annually, as well as an untold number of day hikers and mule riders. Join author Seth Muller on a grand adventure, searching for the Grand Canyon’s soul along miles of canyon trails. Muller profiles rangers, artists, volunteers, hikers, ultra-marathoners, mule skinners, and others who regularly experience the inner canyon, presenting the Corridor Trails in intimate, creative prose that will carry the reader into the depths of the canyon and back out again.

Whether you’re an experienced rim-to-rimmer, an armchair hiker interested in one of the nation’s great wilderness areas, or a dreamer with a bucket list planning to one day check off the Grand Canyon, you are likely to find the unique and compelling Canyon Crossing fascinating.

SETH MULLER is an award-winning journalist who has written numerous articles about the Grand Canyon. He also is author of a young-reader fiction series called Keepers of the Windclaw Chronicles, set in the Navajo Nation. He lives in Flagstaff, Arizona, with his wife and family.
Dry River
Stories of Life, Death, and Redemption on the Santa Cruz
KEN LAMBERTON

Celebrating a ribbon of life in an arid land

Poet and writer Alison Deming once noted, “In the desert, one finds the way by tracing the aftermath of water . . . ”

Here, Ken Lamberton finds his way through a lifetime of exploring southern Arizona’s Santa Cruz River. This river—dry, still, and silent one moment, a thundering torrent of mud the next—serves as a reflection of the desert around it: a hint of water on parched sand, a path to redemption across a thirsty landscape.

With his latest book, Lamberton takes us on a trek across the land of three nations—the United States, Mexico, and the Tohono O’odham Nation—as he hikes the river’s path from its source and introduces us to people who draw identity from the river—dedicated professionals, hard-working locals, and the author’s own family. These people each have their own stories of the river and its effect on their lives, and their narratives add immeasurable richness and depth to Lamberton’s own astute observations and picturesque descriptions.

Unlike books that detail only the Santa Cruz’s decline, Dry River offers a more balanced, at times even optimistic, view of the river that ignites hope for reclamation and offers a call to action rather than indulging in despair and resignation. At once a fascinating cultural history lesson and an important reminder that learning from the past can help us fix what we have damaged, Dry River is both a story about the amazing complexity of this troubled desert waterway and a celebration of one man’s lifelong journey with the people and places touched by it.

KEN LAMBERTON has written extensively about the desert Southwest, including Wilderness and Razor Wire, for which he won the 2002 John Burroughs Medal for outstanding nature writing, and Time of Grace: Thoughts on Nature, Family, and the Politics of Crime and Punishment, also published by the University of Arizona Press. He lives with his wife in an 1890s stone cottage near Bisbee, Arizona.

“Lamberton is an amiable and well-informed guide, and the territory he covers is fascinating.” —Kathleen Dean Moore, author of Wild Comfort

“In this eloquent riparian love story, all things ultimately flow together: past and present and future, family and place, struggle and hope. This is a compelling work of hope and celebration.” —Scott Slovic, editor of ISLE: Interdisciplinary Studies in Literature and Environment

“With scholarly expertise artfully enlivened by his five super-keen senses and much literary skill, Lamberton has produced a southwestern environmental classic.” —Harold Fromm, author of The Nature of Being Human: From Environmentalism to Consciousness
Field Man
Life as a Desert Archaeologist

JULIAN D. HAYDEN
Edited by BILL BROYLES and DIANE E. BOYER

The life of a fascinating southwestern character

Field Man is the captivating memoir of renowned southwestern archaeologist Julian Dodge Hayden, a man who held no professional degree or faculty position but who camped and argued with a who’s who of the discipline, including Emil Haury, Malcolm Rogers, Paul Ezell, and Norman Tindale. This is the personal story of a blue-collar scholar who bucked the conventional thinking on the antiquity of man in the New World, who brought a formidable pragmatism and “hand sense” to the identification of stone tools, and who is remembered as the leading authority on the prehistory of the Sierra Pinacate in northwestern Mexico.

But Field Man is also an evocative recollection of a bygone time and place, a time when archaeological trips to the Southwest were “expeditions,” when a man might run a Civilian Conservation Corps crew by day and study the artifacts of ancient peoples by night, when one could honeymoon by a still-full Gila River, and when a Model T pickup needed extra transmissions to tackle the back roads of Arizona.

To say that Julian Hayden led an eventful life would be an understatement. He accompanied his father, a Harvard-trained archaeologist, on influential excavations, became a crew chief in his own right, taught himself silversmithing, married a “city girl,” helped build the Yuma Air Field, worked as a civilian safety officer, and was a friend and mentor to countless students. He also crossed paths with leading figures in other fields. Barry Goldwater and even Frank Lloyd Wright turn up in this wide-ranging narrative of a “desert rat” who was at once a throwback and—as he only half-jokingly suggests—ahead of his time.

Field Man is the product of years of interviews with Hayden conducted by his colleagues and friends Bill Broyles and Diane Boyer. It is introduced by noted southwestern anthropologist J. Jefferson Reid, and contains an epilogue by Steve Hayden, one of Julian’s sons.

BILL BROYLES is a research associate at the University of Arizona’s Southwest Center. He is the author of Sunshot: Peril and Wonder in the Gran Desierto and Our Sonoran Desert, co-editor of Dry Borders: Great Natural Reserves of the Sonoran Desert, and co-author of Desert Duty: On the Line with the U.S. Border Patrol. DIANE BOYER has worked as a photo archivist for public agencies for twenty years. She is co-author of Damming Grand Canyon: The 1923 USGS Colorado River Expedition and co-editor of Repeat Photography: Methods and Applications in the Natural Sciences.

“Julian Hayden was an important figure in southwestern archaeology, and his story is a fascinating one. In addition, one of the great strengths of his story is his ability to make the Great Depression real for those who did not experience it. On two counts, then, this book is an important historical document.”—Raymond H. Thompson, former director of the Arizona State Museum and professor emeritus at the University of Arizona
Northern Arizona University
Buildings as History
LEE C. DRICKAMER and PETER J. RUNGE

The architectural evolution of a campus

Any university is composed of faculty, students, and staff. But these living components change over time and in varying degrees, while the campus buildings are more permanent, remaining for decades, a century, or longer.

This book looks at the buildings that have graced the campus of Northern Arizona University from its opening in 1898 to the present. The school began with a single building, Old Main, and it was joined by five other structures prior to World War I. In the following decades the campus remained relatively small, expanding to approximately twenty-five structures by the late 1950s. During the tenure of President J. Lawrence Walkup (1957–1979), the university effectively doubled in size, spreading southward and adding more than forty buildings, including an entire south campus academic center. Since 1979 the campus has witnessed the addition of more than thirty structures, most as infill within the existing campus layout.

Arranged chronologically, this extensively illustrated volume briefly describes the history of every building that has been a part of the university’s physical layout. The authors describe various structural aspects of each building and provide entertaining and informative anecdotes about events and people associated with the structures. By combing the university’s archives, Drickamer and Runge have turned up photographs of each building as it looked shortly after construction and at present, providing a fascinating visual time lapse.

With more than two hundred images of campus buildings, many of them never before published, Northern Arizona University: Buildings as History provides a wonderful pictorial chronicle of the campus that will interest architectural historians as well as all those who have called NAU home.

LEE C. DRICKAMER retired from Northern Arizona University in 2009. He is the co-author of several widely used textbooks in animal behavior and mammalogy. His lifelong interest in history has resulted in several books as well, including Leaders in Animal Behavior: The Second Generation, co-edited with Donald Dewsbury. PETER J. RUNGE is the curator of manuscripts and digital content at the Cline Library at Northern Arizona University and has worked at several other academic special-collections libraries over the course of his career.
Nature’s Northwest
The North Pacific Slope in the Twentieth Century

WILLIAM G. ROBBINS and KATRINE BARBER

An innovative social and regional history

At the beginning of the twentieth century, the greater Northwest was ablaze with change and seemingly obsessed with progress. The promotional literature of the time praising railroads, population increases, and the growing sophistication of urban living, however, ignored the reality of poverty and ethnic and gender discrimination. During the course of the next century, even with dramatic changes in the region, one constant remained—inequality.

With an emphasis on the region’s political economy, its environmental history, and its cultural and social heritage, this lively and colorful history of the Pacific Northwest—defined here as Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana, and southern British Columbia—places the narrative of this dynamic region within a national and international context.

Embracing both Canadian and American stories in looking at the larger region, renowned historian William Robbins and Katrine Barber offer us a fascinating regional history through the lens of both the environment and society. Understanding the physical landscape of the greater Pacific Northwest—and the watersheds of the Columbia, Fraser, Snake, and Klamath rivers—sets the stage for understanding the development of the area. Examining how this landscape spawned sawmills, fish canneries, railroads, logging camps, agriculture, and shared immigrant and ethnic traditions reveals an intricate portrait of the twentieth-century Northwest.

Impressive in its synthesis of myriad historical facts, this first-rate regional history will be of interest to historians studying the region from a variety of perspectives and an informative read for anyone fascinated by the story of a landscape rich in diversity, natural resources, and Native culture.

WILLIAM G. ROBBINS is Emeritus Distinguished Professor of History at Oregon State University. He is the author or editor of eleven books, including The Great Northwest: The Search for Regional Identity. KATRINE BARBER is an associate professor of history at Portland State University and the director of the Center for Columbia River History. She is the author of Death of Celilo Falls.

“The authors integrate the experiences of social groups far, far better than any predecessor volume. No other text frames the region this way.” —Adam M. Sowards, Director of the Institute for Pacific Northwest Studies at the University of Idaho
Planning Paradise
Politics and Visioning of Land Use in Oregon

PETER A. WALKER and PATRICK T. HURLEY

The turbulent history of a landmark policy

“Sprawl” is one of the ugliest words in the American political lexicon. Virtually no one wants America’s rural landscapes, farmland, and natural areas to be lost to bland, placeless malls, freeways, and subdivisions. Yet few of America’s fast-growing rural areas have effective rules to limit or contain sprawl.

Oregon is one of the nation’s most celebrated exceptions. In the early 1970s Oregon established the nation’s first and only comprehensive statewide system of land-use planning and largely succeeded in confining residential and commercial growth to urban areas while preserving the state’s rural farmland, forests, and natural areas. Despite repeated political attacks, the state’s planning system remained essentially politically unscathed for three decades. In the early- and mid-2000s, however, the Oregon public appeared disenchanted, voting repeatedly in favor of statewide ballot initiatives that undermined the ability of the state to regulate growth. One of America’s most celebrated “success stories” in the war against sprawl appeared to crumble, inspiring property rights activists in numerous other western states to launch copycat ballot initiatives against land-use regulation.

This is the first book to tell the story of Oregon’s unique land-use planning system from its rise in the early 1970s to its near-death experience in the first decade of the 2000s. Using participant observation and extensive original interviews with key figures on both sides of the state’s land use wars past and present, this book examines the question of how and why a planning system that was once the nation’s most visible and successful example of a comprehensive regulatory approach to preventing runaway sprawl nearly collapsed.

Planning Paradise is tough love for Oregon planning. While admiring much of what the state’s planning system has accomplished, Walker and Hurley believe that scholars, professionals, activists, and citizens engaged in the battle against sprawl would be well advised to think long and deeply about the lessons that the recent struggles of one of America’s most celebrated planning systems may hold for the future of land-use planning in Oregon and beyond.

PETER A. WALKER is an associate professor in the Department of Geography and the Environmental Studies Program at the University of Oregon. PATRICK T. HURLEY is an assistant professor in the Environmental Studies Program at Ursinus College in Pennsylvania.

“It is a rich and fascinating story, a very engaging book—and should be of interest to those with interests in planning and land-use policy.” —Robert J. Mason, author of Collaborative Land Use Management: The Quieter Revolution in Place-Based Planning
Trust in the Land
New Directions in Tribal Conservation

BETH ROSE MIDDLETON

Forming partnerships to reclaim Native lands

“The Earth says, God has placed me here. The Earth says that God tells me to take care of the Indians on this earth; the Earth says to the Indians that stop on the Earth, feed them right. . . . God says feed the Indians upon the earth.”
—Cayuse Chief Young Chief, Walla Walla Council of 1855

America has always been Indian land. Historically and culturally, Native Americans have had a strong appreciation for the land and what it offers. After continually struggling to hold on to their land and losing millions of acres, Native Americans still have a strong and ongoing relationship to their homelands. The land holds spiritual value and offers a way of life through fishing, farming, and hunting. It remains essential—not only for subsistence but also for cultural continuity—that Native Americans regain rights to land they were promised.

Beth Rose Middleton examines new and innovative ideas concerning Native land conservancies, providing advice on land trusts, collaborations, and conservation groups. Increasingly, tribes are working to protect their access to culturally important lands by collaborating with Native and non-Native conservation movements. By using private conservation partnerships to reacquire lost land, tribes can ensure the health and sustainability of vital natural resources. In particular, tribal governments are using conservation easements and land trusts to reclaim rights to lost acreage. Through the use of these and other private conservation tools, tribes are able to protect or in some cases buy back the land that was never sold but rather was taken from them.

Trust in the Land sets into motion a new wave of ideas concerning land conservation. This informative book will appeal to Native and non-Native individuals and organizations interested in protecting the land as well as environmentalists and government agencies.

BETH ROSE MIDDLETON has published articles in Economic Development Quarterly, the Journal of Political Ecology, Ethnohistory, and News from Native California. She is an assistant professor at the University of California, Davis, in the Department of Native American Studies, where she has developed courses on Native public health, Native environmental policy, and federal Indian law.

“...This book presents case studies in detail, drawing upon meticulous research and extensive interviews. The level of probing inquiry is exceptional, contributing to not only a theoretical understanding of the issue but also to the tools used and their practical limitations and strengths.” —Mary Christina Wood, author of Buying Nature: The Limits of Land Acquisition as a Conservation Strategy
Huichol Territory and the Mexican Nation
Indigenous Ritual, Land Conflict, and Sovereignty Claims
PAUL M. LIFFMAN

Provocative questions about place and identity

The Huichol (Wixarika) people claim a vast expanse of Mexico's western Sierra Madre and northern highlands as a territory called kiekari, which includes parts of the states of Nayarit, Jalisco, Durango, Zacatecas, and San Luis Potosí. This territory forms the heart of their economic and spiritual lives. But indigenous land struggle is a central fact of Mexican history, and in this fascinating new work Paul Liffman expands our understanding of it. Drawing on contemporary anthropological theory, he explains how Huichols assert their sovereign rights to collectively own the 1,500 square miles they inhabit and to practice rituals across the 35,000 square miles where their access is challenged. Liffman places current access claims in historical perspective, tracing Huichol communities' long-term efforts to redress the inequitable access to land and other resources that their neighbors and the state have imposed on them.

Liffman writes that "the cultural grounds for territorial claims were what the people I wanted to study wanted me to work on." Based on six years of collaboration with a land-rights organization, interviews, and participant observation in meetings, ceremonies, and extended stays on remote rancherías, Huichol Territory and the Mexican Nation analyzes the sites where people define Huichol territory. The book's innovative structure echoes Huichols' own approach to knowledge and examines the nation and state, not just the community. Liffman's local, regional, and national perspective informs every chapter and expands the toolkit for researchers working with indigenous communities. By describing Huichols' ceremonially based placemaking to build a theory of "historical territoriality," he raises provocative questions about what "place" means for native peoples worldwide.

PAUL M. LIFFMAN is a professor at the Center for Anthropological Studies at the Colegio de Michoacán and a member of the National Research System of Mexico. He has worked as a consultant and translator for the Wixarika exhibit at the National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C.

"Liffman has captured the powerful ability of contemporary theoretical approaches to de-center and de-construct, and brought it to bear on a fascinatingly complex cultural and political situation. He opens up new realms of meaning to the reader and thus a deeper understanding of this moment in history. One of the most significant ethnographic writings of our times." —Philip E Coyle, author of Náyari History, Politics, and Violence: From Flowers to Ash
“This book is an imagining.” So begins this collection examining critical, Indigenous-centered approaches to understanding gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, queer, and Two-Spirit (GLBTQ2) lives and communities and the creative implications of queer theory in Native studies. This book is not so much a manifesto as it is a dialogue—a “writing in conversation”—among a luminous group of scholar-activists revisiting the history of gay and lesbian studies in Indigenous communities while forging a path for Indigenous-centered theories and methodologies.

The bold opening to Queer Indigenous Studies invites new dialogues in Native American and Indigenous studies about the directions and implications of queer Indigenous studies. The collection notably engages Indigenous GLBTQ2 movements as alliances that also call for allies beyond their bounds, which the co-editors and contributors model by crossing their varied identities, including Native, trans, straight, non-Native, feminist, Two-Spirit, mixed blood, and queer, to name just a few.

Rooted in the Indigenous Americas and the Pacific, and drawing on disciplines ranging from literature to anthropology, contributors to *Queer Indigenous Studies* call Indigenous GLBTQ2 movements and allies to center an analysis that critiques the relationship between colonialism and heteropatriarchy. By answering critical turns in Indigenous scholarship that center Indigenous epistemologies and methodologies, contributors join in reshaping Native studies, queer studies, transgender studies, and Indigenous feminisms.

Based on the reality that queer Indigenous people “experience multi-layered oppression that profoundly impacts our safety, health, and survival,” this book is at once an imagining and an invitation to the reader to join in the discussion of decolonizing queer Indigenous research and theory and, by doing so, to partake in allied resistance working toward positive change.

QWO-LI DRISKILL is a Cherokee Queer/Two-Spirit writer, scholar, and performer. S/he is the author of *Walking with Ghosts: Poems* and is currently and assistant professor in the Department of English at Texas A&M University. CHRIS FINLEY is a queer Native feminist finishing her PhD in American culture at the University of Michigan. She is a member of the Colville Confederated Tribes located in Washington State. BRIAN JOSEPH GILLEY is an associate professor of anthropology and director of the First Nations Education and Culture Center at Indiana University, Bloomington. He is the author of *Becoming Two-Spirit: Gay Identity and Social Acceptance in Indian Country*. SCOTT LAURIA MORGENSEN is an assistant professor in the Department of Gender Studies at Queen’s University. His work as a white queer critic of settler colonialism appears in his book *Queer/Native/Settler: Colonial Desires, Queer Politics, and Indigenous Decolonization*. 
Latino Los Angeles in Film and Fiction
The Cultural Production of Social Anxiety

IGNACIO LÓPEZ-CALVO

A look at re-imagining the urban Latino role

Los Angeles has long been a place where cultures clash and reshape. The city has a growing number of Latina/o authors and filmmakers who are remapping and reclaiming it through ongoing symbolic appropriation. In this illuminating book, Ignacio López-Calvo foregrounds the emotional experiences of authors, implicit authors, narrators, characters, and readers in order to demonstrate that the evolution of the imaging of Los Angeles in Latino cultural production is closely related to the politics of spatial location. This spatial-temporal approach, he writes, reveals significant social anxieties, repressed rage, and deep racial guilt.

Latino Los Angeles in Film and Fiction sets out to reconfigure the scope of Latino literary and cultural studies. Integrating histories of different regions and nations, the book sets the interplay of unresolved contradictions in this particular metropolitan area. The novelists studied here stem from multiple areas, including the U.S. Southwest, Guatemala, and Chile. The study also incorporates non-Latino writers who have contributed to the Latino culture of the city.

The first chapter examines Latino cultural production from an ecocritical perspective on urban interethnic relations. Chapter 2 concentrates on the representation of daily life in the barrio and the marginalization of Latino urban youth. The third chapter explores the space of women and how female characters expand their area of operations from the domestic space to the public space of both the barrio and the city.

A much-needed contribution to the fields of urban theory, race critical theory, Chicana/o-Latina/o studies, and Los Angeles writing and film, López-Calvo offers multiple theoretical perspectives—including urban theory, ecocriticism, ethnic studies, gender studies, and cultural studies—contextualized with notions of transnationalism and post-nationalism.

IGNACIO LÓPEZ-CALVO is a professor of Latin American literature and chair of the Graduate Group of World Cultures at the University of California, Merced. He is the author of several previous books on Latin American and U.S. Latino literature and culture, including Imaging the Chinese in Cuban Literature and Culture.


“A wonderful, at times revelatory, reconstruction of the debate about the meaning and future of Los Angeles.” —Mike Davis, author of City of Quartz: Excavating the Future in Los Angeles

Of Related Interest

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JUAN J. ALONZO
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Forty Miles from the Sea
Xalapa, the Public Sphere, and the Atlantic World in Nineteenth-Century Mexico

RACHEL A. MOORE

A city shifting between two worlds

While the literature on Atlantic history is vast and flourishing, few studies have examined the importance of inland settlements to the survival of Atlantic ports. This book explores the symbiotic yet conflicted relationships that bound the Mexican cities of Xalapa and Veracruz to the larger Atlantic world and considers the impact these affiliations had on communication and, ultimately, the formation of national identity.

Over the course of the nineteenth century, despite its inland location, Xalapa became an important Atlantic community as it came to represent both a haven and a place of fortification for residents of Veracruz. Yellow fever, foreign invasion, and domestic discord drove thousands of residents of Veracruz, as well as foreign travelers, to seek refuge in Xalapa. At the same time, these adverse circumstances prompted the Mexican government to use Xalapa as a bulwark against threats originating in the Atlantic.

The influence of the Atlantic world thus stretched far into central Mexico, thanks to both the instability of the coastal region and the desire of government officials to “protect” central Mexico from volatile Atlantic imports. The boundaries established at Xalapa, however, encouraged goods, information, and people to collect in the city and thereby immerse the population in the developments of the Atlantic sphere. Thus, in seeking to protect the center of the country, government authorities more firmly situated Xalapa in the Atlantic world. This connection would be trumped by national affiliation only when native residents of Xalapa became more comfortable with their participation in the Mexican public sphere later in the nineteenth century.

The interdisciplinary and comparative nature of this study will make it appeal to those studying Atlantic history, including historians of Britain, the United States, Latin America, and Africa, as well as those studying communication, print culture, and postal history more broadly.

RACHEL A. MOORE teaches in the Department of History at Clemson University.

“I can think of no other history that approaches the problem of regional identities in such an innovative way. I believe that it will make a valuable addition to the literature and will serve as a point of departure for similar works in the future.” —Michael Ducey, author of A Nation of Villages: Riot and Rebellion in the Mexican Huasteca, 1750–1850
Global Maya
Work and Ideology in Rural Guatemala
LILIANA R. GOLDÍN

First time in paperback

In the central highland Maya communities of Guatemala, the demands of the global economy have become a way of life. This book explores how rural peoples experience economic and cultural change as their country joins the global market, focusing on their thoughts about work and sustenance as a way of learning about Guatemala’s changing economy.

For more than a decade, Liliana Goldín observed in highland towns both the intensification of various forms of production and their growing links to wider markets. In this first book to compare economic ideology across a range of production systems, she examines how people make a living and how they think about their options, practices, and constraints. Drawing on interviews and surveys—even retellings of traditional narratives—she reveals how contemporary Maya respond to the increasingly globalized yet locally circumscribed conditions in which they work.

Goldín presents four case studies: cottage industries devoted to garment production, vegetable growing for internal and border markets reached through direct commerce, crops grown for export, and wage labor in garment assembly factories. By comparing generational and gendered differences among workers, she reveals not only complexities of change but also how these complexities are reflected in the changing attitudes, understandings, and aspirations that characterize people’s economic ideology.

Further, she shows that as rural people take on diverse economic activities, they also reinterpret their views on such matters as accumulation, cooperation, competition, division of labor, and community solidarity.

Global Maya explores global processes in local terms, revealing the interplay of traditional values, household economics, and the inescapable conditions of demographic growth, a shrinking land base, and a global economy always looking for cheap labor. It offers a wealth of new insights not only for Maya scholars but also for anyone concerned with the effects of globalization on the Third World.

LILIANA R. GOLDÍN is a professor of anthropology at Florida International University. She is the author of Procesos globales en el campo de Guatemala and editor of Identities on the Move: Transnational Processes in North America and the Caribbean Basin.

“Goldín’s analytic and methodological foci are parameters which set the stage for a study that is as powerful as it is focused.” —Journal of Latin American and Caribbean Anthropology
Jesus and the Gang
Youth Violence and Christianity in Urban Honduras
JON WOLSETH

Social alternatives for disaffected youth

In urban Honduras, gun violence and assault form the pulsing backdrop of everyday life. This book examines the ways that young men and women in working-class neighborhoods of El Progreso, Honduras, understand and respond to gang and gun violence in their communities. Because residents rely on gangs and Catholic and Evangelical Protestant churches to mediate violence in their neighborhoods, these institutions form the fabric of society. While only a small fraction of youths in a neighborhood are active members of a gang, most young men must learn the styles, ways of communicating, and local geography of gangs in order to survive. Due to the absence of gang prevention programs sponsored by the government or outside non-governmental organizations, Catholic and Pentecostal churches have developed their own ways to confront gang violence in their communities. Youths who participate in church organizations do so not only to alter and improve their communities but also to gain emotional and institutional support.

Offering firsthand accounts of these youths and how they make use of religious discourse, narrative practices, or the inscription of tattooed images and words on the body to navigate dangerous social settings, Jesus and the Gang is an unflinching look at how these young men turn away from perpetuating the cycle of violence and how Christianity serves a society where belonging is surviving.

This book will appeal to readers with an interest in Latin American studies, urban anthropology, and youth studies. With its focus on the lives of young men and women, it’s also a compelling read for anyone interested in the plight of urban youth trying to escape the gang life.

JON WOLSETH is a visiting associate professor of anthropology at Luther College. He has published articles in the Journal of Latin American and Caribbean Anthropology and Latin American Perspectives, as well as chapters in Youth Violence in Latin America and Anthropological Perspectives on Learning in Childhood. 

“Jon Wolseth has collected a lot of interesting data under difficult circumstances, and he does a good job of presenting his ethnography in a manner that brings to life his informants and the threat of violence with which they live.” —Roger Magazine, author of Golden and Blue Like My Heart: Masculinity, Youth, and Power Among Soccer Fans in Mexico City
The Borders of Inequality
Where Wealth and Poverty Collide

ÍÑIGO MORÉ
Translated by LYN DOMÍNGUEZ

Examining the world’s most problematic borders

Recently U.S. media, policymakers, and commentators of all stripes have been preoccupied with the nation’s border with Mexico. Airwaves, websites, and blogs are filled with concerns over border issues: illegal immigrants, drug wars, narcotics trafficking, and “securing the border.” While this is a valid conversation, it’s rarely contrasted with the other U.S. border, with Canada—still the longest unguarded border on Earth.

In this fascinating book, originally published in Spain to much acclaim, researcher Íñigo More looks at the bigger picture. With a professionally trained eye, he examines the world’s “top twenty most unequal borders.” What he finds is that many of these border situations share similar characteristics. There is always illegal immigration from the poor country to the wealthy one. There is always trafficking in illegal substances. And the unequal neighbors usually regard each other with suspicion or even open hostility.

After surveying the “top twenty,” More explores in depth the cases of three borders: between Germany and Poland, Spain and Morocco, and the United States and Mexico. The core problem, he concludes, is not drugs or immigration or self-protection. Rather, the problem is inequality itself. Unequal borders result, he writes, from a skewed interaction among markets, people, and states. Using these findings, More builds a useful new framework for analyzing border dynamics from a quantitative view based on economic inequality.

The Borders of Inequality illustrates how longstanding “multidirectional misunderstandings” can exacerbate cross-border problems—and consequent public opinion. Perpetuating these misunderstandings can inflame and complicate the situation, but purposeful efforts to reduce inequality can produce promising results.

ÍÑIGO MORÉ is a scholar and researcher who focuses on border issues. He is the Executive Director of Remesas.org, a research center that studies remittances and maintains an active publishing program, and he has previously done research for the Elcano Royal Institute of Spain. He has reported on Cuba for the Financial Times and has organized conferences in Morocco for The Economist. The Spanish-language edition of this book, La Vida en la Frontera, was ranked sixth by the Spanish newspaper El Mundo on its list of best nonfiction books of 2007.

“The Borders of Inequality is a provocative, tightly reasoned, and nicely written work that has significant potential as an important work in the area of border studies.” —Raymond Michalowski, author of Order, Law, and Crime: An Introduction to Criminology

Of Related Interest

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Bedouin Ethnobotany
Plant Concepts and Uses in a Desert Pastoral World
JAMES P. MANDAVILLE

A ground-breaking study of lost nomadic culture

A Bedouin asking a fellow tribesman about grazing conditions in other parts of the country says first simply, “Fih hayah?” or “Is there life?” A desert Arab’s knowledge of the sparse vegetation is tied directly to his life and livelihood.

Bedouin Ethnobotany offers the first detailed study of plant uses among the Najdi Arabic-speaking tribal peoples of eastern Saudi Arabia. It also makes a major contribution to the larger project of ethnobotany by describing aspects of a nomadic peoples’ conceptual relationships with the plants of their homeland.

The modern theoretical basis for studies of the folk classification and nomenclature of plants was developed from accounts of peoples who were small-scale agriculturists and, to a lesser extent, hunter-gatherers. This book fills a major gap by extending such study into the world of the nomadic pastoralist and exploring the extent to which these patterns are valid for another major subsistence type. James P. Mandaville, an Arabic speaker who lived in Saudi Arabia for many years, focuses first on the role of plants in Bedouin life, explaining their uses for livestock forage, firewood, medicinals, food, and dyestuffs, and examining other practical purposes. He then explicates the conceptual and linguistic aspects of his subject, applying the theory developed by Brent Berlin and others to a previously unstudied population. Mandaville also looks at the long history of Bedouin plant nomenclature, finding that very little has changed among the names and classifications in nearly eleven centuries.

This volume includes a CD-ROM featuring more than 340 color images of the people, the terrain, and nearly all of the plants mentioned in the text as well as an audio file of a traditional Bedouin song and its translation and analysis.

An essential volume for anyone interested in the interaction between human culture and plant life, Bedouin Ethnobotany will stand as a definitive source for years to come.

JAMES P. MANDAVILLE is the author of Flora of Eastern Saudi Arabia. Now retired, he resided in Saudi Arabia for much of his working life. He received his BS in Arabic from Georgetown University in 1957 and his PhD in arid lands resource sciences from the University of Arizona in 2004. He began his career in Saudi Arabia as an employee of the Arabian American Oil Company (now the Saudi Arabian Oil Company) and has worked as a consultant for rangeland restoration in Saudi Arabia. He now resides in Tucson.

“This is by far the best and most thorough account of mainland Arabian ethnobotany. Mandaville’s work brings new sophistication to studies of Middle Eastern ethnoscience.” —E.N. Anderson, co-author of Political Ecology in a Yucatec Maya Community
The Life-Giving Stone
Ethnoarchaeology of Maya Metates

MICHAEL T. SEARCY

The history and decline of an important tradition

In The Life-Giving Stone, Michael Searcy provides a thought-provoking ethnoarchaeological account of metate and mano manufacture, marketing, and use among Guatemalan Maya for whom these stone implements are still essential equipment in everyday life and diet.

Although many archaeologists have regarded these artifacts simply as common everyday tools and therefore unremarkable, Searcy’s methodology reveals how, for the ancient Maya, the manufacture and use of grinding stones significantly impacted their physical and economic welfare. In tracing the life cycle of these tools from production to discard for the modern Maya, Searcy discovers rich customs and traditions that indicate how metates and manos have continued to sustain life—not just literally, in terms of food, but also in terms of culture. His research is based on two years of fieldwork among three Mayan groups, in which he documented behaviors associated with these tools during their procurement, production, acquisition, use, discard, and re-use.

Searcy’s investigation documents traditional practices that are rapidly being lost or dramatically modified. In few instances will it be possible in the future to observe metates and manos as central elements in household provisioning or follow their path from hand-manufacture to market distribution and to intergenerational transmission. In this careful inquiry into the cultural significance of a simple tool, Searcy’s ethnographic observations are guided both by an interest in how grinding stone traditions have persisted and how they are changing today, and by the goal of enhancing the archaeological interpretation of these stones, which were so fundamental to pre-Hispanic agriculturalists with corn-based cuisines.

MICHAEL T. SEARCY is an archaeologist for the Office of Public Archaeology at Brigham Young University and has worked on a number of archaeological projects in Utah, Mexico, and Guatemala. Searcy also has seven years’ experience in ethnographic documentary filmmaking. His film Starvation Doctrine: The Plight of Illegal Immigrants in America won the Best Oklahoma Short Film award in 2009.

“Searcy brings together previous work on metates in Mesoamerica and fills crucial gaps, producing a comprehensive study that will be invaluable to those engaged in groundstone studies in the Americas and beyond.” —Margaret E. Beck, University of Iowa
Cultures incorporating death into everyday life

Living with the Dead
Mortuary Ritual in Mesoamerica
Edited by JAMES L. FITZSIMMONS and IZUMI SHIMADA

Scholars have recently achieved new insights into the many ways in which the dead and the living interacted from the Late Preclassic to the Conquest in Mesoamerica. The eight essays in this useful volume were written by well-known scholars who offer cross-disciplinary and synergistic insights into the varied articulations between the dead and those who survived them. From physically opening the tomb of their ancestors and carrying out ancestral heirlooms to periodic feasts, sacrifices, and other lavish ceremonies, heirs revisited death on a regular basis. The activities attributable to the dead, moreover, range from passively defining territorial boundaries to more active exploits, such as “dancing” at weddings and “witnessing” royal accessions. The dead were—and continued to be—a vital part of everyday life in Mesoamerican cultures.

This book results from a symposium organized by the editors for an annual meeting of the Society for American Archaeology. The contributors employ historical sources, comparative art history, anthropology, and sociology, as well as archaeology and anthropology, to uncover surprising commonalities across cultures, including the manner in which the dead were politicized, the perceptions of reciprocity between the dead and the living, and the ways that the dead were used by the living to create, define, and renew social as well as family ties. In exploring larger issues of a “good death” and the transition from death to ancestry, the contributors demonstrate that across Mesoamerica death was almost never accompanied by the extinction of a persona; it was more often the beginning of a social process than a conclusion.

JAMES L. FITZSIMMONS is an assistant professor of anthropology at Middlebury College. He is the author of Death and the Classic Maya Kings. IZUMI SHIMADA is a professor and Distinguished Scholar in the Department of Anthropology at Southern Illinois University. He has published numerous journal articles and book chapters and has authored or edited several books, including Craft Production in Complex Societies.
Hunter-Gatherer Archaeology as Historical Process

Edited by KENNETH E. SASSAMAN and DONALD H. HOLLY JR.

Foragers as agents of social change

The remains of hunter-gatherer groups are the most commonly discovered archaeological resources in the world, and their study constitutes much of the archaeological research done in North America. In spite of paradigm-shifting discoveries elsewhere in the world that may indicate that hunter-gatherer societies were more complex than simple remnants of a prehistoric past, North American archaeology by and large hasn’t embraced these theories, instead maintaining its general neoevolutionary track. This book will change that.

Combining the latest empirical studies of archaeological practice with the latest conceptual tools of anthropological and historical theory, this volume seeks to set a new course for hunter-gatherer archaeology by organizing the chapters around three themes. The first section offers diverse views of the role of human agency, challenging the premise that hunter-gatherer societies were bound by their interactions with the natural world. The second section considers how society and culture are constituted. Chapters in the final section take the long view of the historical process, examining how cultural diversity arises out of interaction and the continuity of ritual practices.

A closing commentary by H. Martin Wobst underscores the promise of an archaeology of foragers that does not associate foraging with any particular ideology or social structure but instead invites inquiry into counterintuitive alternatives. Hunter-Gatherer Archaeology as Historical Process seeks to blur the divisions between prehistory and history, between primitive and modern, and between hunter-gatherers and people in other societies. Because it offers alternatives to the dominant discourse and contributes to the agenda of hunter-gatherer research, this book will be of interest to anyone involved in the study of foraging peoples.

KENNETH E. SASSAMAN is an associate professor of anthropology at the University of Florida. He is the author of many journal articles and several books, including The Eastern Archaic, Historicized and People of the Shoals: Stallings Culture of the Savannah River Valley. DONALD H. HOLLY JR. is an assistant professor of anthropology at Eastern Illinois University.

“We line of investigations and theoretical approaches employed in this volume is the wave of the future and should serve as a model for the next decade of hunter-gatherer research.” —Thomas Emerson, co-editor of Archaic Societies: Diversity and Complexity across the Midcontinent
The Neolithic Revolution in the Near East
Transforming the Human Landscape
ALAN H. SIMMONS

Available for the first time in paperback

Winner of the G. Ernest Wright Award from the American Schools of Oriental Research

“An extremely readable work that introduces the main issues that currently engage researchers of the Near Eastern Neolithic and the cultures that preceded it.” — American Antiquity

“In this rich, highly readable volume, Alan H. Simmons draws on 30 years of archaeological experience to examine the origins of agriculture and pastoral economies in the Near East.” — Journal of Agricultural and Environmental Ethics

“This volume contains a wealth of relevant data and useful references.”
— Cambridge Archaeological Review

ALAN H. SIMMONS is a Distinguished Professor in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

People of Pascua
EDWARD H. SPICER
Edited by KATHLEEN MULLEN SANDS and ROSAMOND B. SPICER

Available for the first time in paperback

“Sketches the history and culture of the Tucson area Yaqui and contains case studies of a number of the informants. What constituted ‘Yaquiness’ in Pascua was mainly a common language, a shared historical tradition, and an aberrant form of Catholic Christianity laced with Yaqui concepts. This clearly and concisely written book is very important on its own terms both as an early example of the use of life histories in ethnology and as a significant contribution to Yaqui studies.” — Choice

“Spicer’s People of Pascua is well written and well edited. Both the editorial preface and the updatings in the end notes are clear and succinct.”
— Canadian Journal of Native Studies

Before his death in 1983, EDWARD H. SPICER held a joint appointment in anthropology and sociology at the University of Arizona and was perhaps the foremost scholar and authority on the history and culture of the Yaqui Indians of Sonora and the desert Southwest.
Animas–La Plata Project
Volume XV

Bioarchaeology

Edited by ELIZABETH M. PERRY, ANN L. W. STODDER, and CHARLES A. BOLLONG

Volume XV of the Animas–La Plata (ALP) series (SWCA Anthropological Research Paper No. 10) contains thirteen chapters and multiple appendixes by a multitude of authors. The introductory chapter presents the broad archaeological context of the ALP project, explains some of the terminology used in writing about the ALP skeletal remains, and briefly characterizes the nature of the assemblage with respect to basic demographics such as the age and sex distribution of the human remains recovered from the different ALP sites. The NAGPRA process is described, as is its influence on data collection.

The remainder of the volume presents the results of bioarchaeological data collection and analysis conducted by various analysts who address mortuary practice, paleodemography, skeletal and dental morphology, health indicators in adults and children, biological variation, and the ethnicity of the basin’s Pueblo I residents. The final two chapters document the methods employed in the processed human remains analysis from Sacred Ridge and present the results of a first analysis of these data.

Animas–La Plata Project
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